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Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

Budget for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009

Report of the Secretary-General

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Summary

The present report contains the budget for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009, which amounts to $45,827,400.

The budget provides for the deployment of 59 international staff and 206 national staff. The international and national staffing establishment includes 6 international and 16 national positions funded under general temporary assistance.

The total resource requirements for the Logistics Base for the financial period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 have been linked to the objective of the Base through a results-based-budgeting framework under the support component.

The explanations of variances in the levels of both human and financial resources have been linked, where applicable, to specific outputs planned by the Logistics Base.

Financial resources
(Thousands of United States dollars. Budget year is from 1 July to 30 June.)

Category	*Expenditures[a] (2006/07)*	*Apportionment[a] (2007/08)*	*Cost estimates[a] (2008/09)*	*Variance*	
				Amount	*Percentage*
Military and police personnel	—	—	—	—	—
Civilian personnel	15 380.0	18 349.5	22 873.0	4 523.5	24.7
Operational costs	17 549.2	22 030.1	22 954.4	924.3	4.2
Gross requirements	**32 929.2**	**40 379.6**	**45 827.4**	**5 447.8**	**13.5**
Staff assessment income	2 241.2	2 692.4	3 492.8	800.4	29.7
Net requirements	**30 688.0**	**37 687.2**	**42 334.6**	**4 647.4**	**12.3**
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)	—	—	—	—	—
Total requirements	**32 929.2**	**40 379.6**	**45 827.4**	**5 447.8**	**13.5**

[a] Reflects the realignment of the cost of general temporary assistance positions from operational to civilian personnel costs.

Human resources[a]

	Military observers	*Military contingents*	*United Nations police*	*Formed police units*	*International staff*	*National staff*[b]	*Temporary position*[c]	*United Nations Volunteers*	*Government-provided personnel*	*Civilian electoral observers*	*Total*
Office of the Chief, United Nations Logistics Base											
Approved 2007/08	—	—	—	—	3	3	—	—	—	—	6
Proposed 2008/09	—	—	—	—	3	12	—	—	—	—	15
Components											
United Nations Logistics Base Support Services											
Approved 2007/08	—	—	—	—	10	55	6	—	—	—	71
Proposed 2008/09	—	—	—	—	12	54	8	—	—	—	74
Logistics Support Services											
Approved 2007/08	—	—	—	—	11	78	—	—	—	—	89
Proposed 2008/09	—	—	—	—	11	87	1	—	—	—	99
Communications and Information Technology Services											
Approved 2007/08	—	—	—	—	12	35	—	—	—	—	47
Proposed 2008/09	—	—	—	—	13	35	—	—	—	—	48
Tenant Units											
Approved 2007/08	—	—	—	—	14	2	13	—	—	—	29
Proposed 2008/09	—	—	—	—	14	2	13	—	—	—	29
Total											
Approved 2007/08	—	—	—	—	50	173	19	—	—	—	242
Proposed 2008/09	—	—	—	—	53	190	22	—	—	—	265
Net change	—	—	—	—	3	17	3	—	—	—	23

[a] Represents highest level of authorized/proposed strength.
[b] Includes National Officers and national General Service staff.
[c] Funded under general temporary assistance.

The actions to be taken by the General Assembly are set out in section IV of the present report.

I. Objective and planned results

1. The original storage facility for the Department of Peacekeeping Operations was the United Nations Supply Depot, first located in Naples and subsequently moved to Pisa, Italy. The supply depot was established in 1956 to receive assets available upon the closure of the United Nations Emergency Force. The United Nations Logistics Base has been in operation since late 1994 at Brindisi, Italy.

2. A memorandum of understanding signed by the Secretary-General and the Republic of Italy on 23 November 1994 and amended on 7 December 2001 governs the use by the United Nations of property and facilities at Brindisi. A further amendment is being concluded for additional property and open areas, as approved by the General Assembly in its resolutions 58/557 of 23 December 2003 and 62/231 of 22 December 2007. The Logistics Base comprises 22 warehouses, 12 workshops and technical buildings, 18 office buildings, a training centre and 12 open areas.

3. Under the terms of the memorandum of understanding between the United Nations and the Government of Italy, the latter provides support to the Logistics Base. That includes, in addition to the items indicated in paragraph 2 above, three free warehouses custom-built by the Government at an estimated cost of $2.3 million. The Government also provides perimeter security to the Base and rapid response to any security incident within it. It also allows the use of the airport at the Base and the port in Brindisi.

4. The objective of the Logistics Base is to ensure efficient and effective peacekeeping operations.

5. Within that overall objective, the Logistics Base will contribute during the budget period to one expected accomplishment by delivering related key outputs, as shown in the framework below. The framework reflects several functional areas of the Logistics Base. Those areas include the United Nations Logistics Base Support Services, Logistics Support Services, Communications and Information Technology Services and the Tenant Units (the Regional Aviation Safety Office, the Strategic Air Operations Centre, the Training Delivery Cell, the Geographical Information System Centre and the Engineering Design Unit).

6. The expected accomplishment would lead to the fulfilment of the objective of the Logistics Base, and the indicators of achievement show a measurement of the progress made towards the accomplishment during the budget period. The human resources of the Base are provided for under the support component. Variances in the number of personnel compared with the 2007/08 budget are the result of the expanded workflows and other responsibilities of the Base in providing support to field mission operations worldwide, the Tenant Units administered within Base facilities, Headquarters clients, offices away from Headquarters and United Nations agencies in the 2008/09 period.

7. The role of the Logistics Base has expanded from one involving predominately logistics and strategic deployment stocks support for peacekeeping operations. It provides support to Headquarters, offices away from Headquarters, special political missions and other United Nations Secretariat and system-wide operations. The Base provides support to the World Food Programme (WFP), the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and the International Computing Centre (ICC).

8. As requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/277, the longer-term perspective on the role and future development of the Logistics Base will be included in the proposed 2009/10 budget. It will also take into account any developments in respect of United Nations system-wide enterprise resource planning systems, disaster recovery and business continuity planning and the role of the Base as a global United Nations communications hub. An analysis of the projected associated costs and overhead weighed against potential benefits, including savings and productivity and other qualitative gains, will be provided to support proposals on the establishment of logistics functions there.

Overall structure and initiatives

9. As indicated in paragraph 5 above, the functional areas of the Base include the United Nations Logistics Base Support Services, Logistics Support Services, Communications and Information Technology Services and Tenant Units, under the overall direction, supervision and oversight of the Chief Administrative Officer. The Chief Administrative Officer would also be the designated Area Security Coordinator for the exclusive use area. The Office of the Chief Administrative Officer incorporates a proposed reinforced Security Office arising out of the recommendations of a security assessment conducted by the Department of Safety and Security at the Logistics Base from 19 to 23 November 2007.

10. The proposed Security Office would provide adequate security to secure facilities and equipment designated within the areas controlled by the Logistics Base, address deficiencies in site-access control mechanisms and upgrade the current protective measures of critical sites of the disaster recovery and business continuity functions and the communications centre. The Security Office would also review the receiving and inspection procedures and installations. The functions and staffing establishment of the proposed Office and the basis for it are elaborated on in paragraphs 20 and 21 of the present report.

United Nations Logistics Base Support Services

11. The United Nations Logistics Base Support Services manages and administers the Base. Under the operational control of the Department of Field Support, it administers and manages the Tenant Units. Support Services comprises the Personnel Section, including the Recruitment and Outreach Unit pilot project introduced in 2007/08, the Finance and Budget, Procurement, Facilities Management and Property Management Sections, as well as the Medical Clinic.

Logistics Support Services

12. The Logistics Support Services of the Base handles strategic deployment stocks, United Nations reserve stocks and peacekeeping operations trans-shipment management and comprises the Logistics Operations, Supply, Transport, and Engineering Sections, all reporting to the Chief Logistics Officer. During the 2008/09 period, Logistics Support Services will continue to focus on its current roles. These include the management and placement of strategic deployment stocks; the storage, maintenance, receipt, inspection, issuance and rotation of vehicles, engineering materials and supplies and equipment needed to start and sustain peacekeeping missions. To that extent, the initiatives of the Logistics Support Services for the 2008/09 period include:

(a) Decreasing the average receipt and inspection time as well as the shipment processing time and lag for strategic deployment stocks, United Nations reserve stocks and Logistics Base and Department of Field Support trans-shipments;

(b) Upholding the operational readiness of the vehicle fleet, for both the Base and strategic deployment stocks;

(c) Designing and constructing a Communications and Information Technology Services facility alongside the satellite farm.

Communications and Information Technology Services

13. The Communications and Information Technology Services of the logistics base maintains and services mail accounts for some 24,500 users annually on average, including 500 users at Brindisi and 24,000 field mission accounts. The Base switches an estimated 14.4 million voice calls, routes some 7 billion e-mails and bridges 4,000 videoconference sessions yearly. A disaster recovery and business continuity capacity is also located at the Base's data centre.

14. The Communications and Information Technology Services of the Base will continue in its role of supporting the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support at Headquarters and in peacekeeping missions. During the 2008/09 period, it will undertake several initiatives, including:

(a) Continuing to serve as the global and strategic information communications technology hub for United Nations peace operations worldwide;

(b) Continuing to provide voice, data and video communications switching, bridging and routing services among missions and between missions and Headquarters;

(c) Managing and operating the data centre of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations in support of disaster recovery and business continuity for all peacekeeping operations;

(d) Achieving full compliance with information and communications technology approved standards and the International Organization for Standardization code of practice for information security management;

(e) Instituting the Information Technology Infrastructure Library of industry best practices for service management in service support;

(f) Implementing a server consolidation and virtualization strategy, thereby shrinking data centre space by 10 per cent (28 servers) and lowering annual running costs by some 15 per cent (estimated at $58,700).

Tenant Units

15. The Regional Aviation Safety Office, established on 1 July 2006 as a pilot project, ensures objective and in-depth air safety oversight and audit, hazards identification and risk analysis, the definition of dangerous trends and identification of the need for corrective action independently from day-to-day air operations. The Office serviced, in addition to the Logistics Base, missions in the region, namely the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) and the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG), through the establishment of an oversight programme involving on-site inspections of aviation equipment and

aircraft and accident-prevention activities, as well as the provision of advice on aviation safety issues. The Office also facilitated the establishment and revitalization of the Aviation Safety Council. During the 2008/09 period, in addition to continuing its current role, the Office will expand the scope and coverage of its aviation safety oversight programme to include two further missions, namely, the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon and the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus.

16. The Strategic Air Operations Centre will continue:

(a) To oversee and track all United Nations aviation fleet aircraft in peacekeeping missions that are engaged in strategic long- and short-term passenger and cargo airlift movement as well as inter-mission operations;

(b) To assist in the analysis of contract performance and compliance, maintain 24-hour readiness to respond to search-and-rescue and field mission aeromedical and emergency flights;

(c) To assist in gaining clearance of all Department of Peacekeeping Operations worldwide inter-mission flights.

17. The Training Delivery Cell will further improve the predeployment induction training courses for newly employed civilian international staff members. It will continue to coordinate all aspects of the delivery of peacekeeping training at national, regional and integrated mission training centres. In addition, the Cell will facilitate and support the delivery of training by other entities as requested, including through the provision of training material.

18. The Geographical Information System Centre will continue to focus on the provision of a secured repository of global peacekeeping geospatial information to all field missions and to Headquarters. In particular, during the period the Centre will continue to produce high-resolution satellite image and topographic maps of priority deployment areas of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur, including for hydrogeological underground water assessment and terrain and flooding-hazard analysis for campsite selection. The emphasis of the Centre also includes training and the preparation of procedures for mission start-up as well as the United Nations Google Earth Enterprise project.

19. The Engineering Design Unit will continue its role in the provision of design templates/standard designs, a Web-based engineering design library for peacekeeping missions and Headquarters clients, allowing the use of existing designs and associated statements of work and bills of quantities to be tailored to suit the requirements of specific peacekeeping missions.

Component 1: support

Expected accomplishments	*Indicators of achievement*
1.1 Increased efficiency and effectiveness of peacekeeping operations	1.1.1 Deployment of strategic deployment stock equipment to new and expanding missions within 90 days of the Security Council mandate
	1.1.2 Reduction in the average receipt and inspection time for strategic deployment stocks, United Nations reserve stocks and Logistics Base and Department of Field Support trans-shipments (2006/07: 25 days; 2007/08: 20 days; 2008/09: 18 days)
	1.1.3 Reduction in the average shipment processing time for strategic deployment stocks, United Nations reserve stocks, Logistics Base and Department of Field Support trans-shipments from the receipt of material release orders and/or an official fax for trans-shipment inventories until the equipment and materials have been prepared and consolidated for shipment and records have been electronically transferred to the Galileo shipping module (2006/07: 17 days; 2007/08: 15 days; 2008/09: 14 days)
	1.1.4 Availability of communications and information technology services to peacekeeping operations 99.9 per cent of the time
	1.1.5 Deployment of a Geographical Information System team to new and expanding missions within 30 days of the Security Council mandate
	1.1.6 All aircraft operations at the Logistics Base, UNMIK and UNOMIG conducted safely and maintained at or below level 2 aviation safety indicators
	1.1.7 Full compliance of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations hub with the information and communications technology approved standards and the international Organization for Standardization (ISO) code of practice for information security management
	1.1.8 All eligible newly recruited civilian staff members successfully complete predeployment induction training prior to deploying to their designated duty field mission
	1.1.9 Implementation of the United Nations security management system at the Base
	1.1.10 Reduction in security- and safety-related incidents (2006/07: 131; 2007/08: 77; 2008/09: 35)

Outputs

Logistics Services

- Receipt and inspection of strategic deployment stock items (including vehicles, generators, prefabricated buildings and related equipment, communications and information technology equipment, spare parts and expendable items) valued at approximately $141.5 million, that is, equivalent to the deployment of one complex mission requirement
- 186 locally contracted minor cargo movements and 15 Headquarters-contracted major shipments to deploy strategic deployment stocks, trans-shipments and United Nations reserve materiel to peace operations
- 150 aviation movements for peace operations and United Nations agencies
- Planning and implementation of safe-driving and rough-terrain-driving training in order to improve skill levels, enhancing the safety and security of staff and assets
- Operation and maintenance of the Logistics Base and strategic deployment stocks vehicle fleet
- Storage and maintenance (to warranty standard) of strategic deployment stocks equipment, including 215 generators, 860 prefabricated hard-wall buildings, 1,035 soft-wall structures and associated equipment, spare parts and expendable stores
- Issuance and handing over of supply items within three working days upon receipt of internal client requests

Communications and Information Technology Services

- Consolidation and virtualization of servers to achieve a relative reduction in data centre space and reduce annual operating costs
- Maintenance and operation of communications equipment comprising 6 Earth station hubs to provide voice, fax, video and data communications to the Logistics Base and peace operations on a 24/7 basis
- Configuration and maintenance of information and communications technology assets during the start-up of peace operations worldwide
- Implementation and operation of a disaster recovery and business continuity service by replicating United Nations mission data and user mail files to the Logistics Base (75-terabyte data-storage capacity)
- Maintenance and operation of information technology equipment comprising 354 servers, 584 desktop computers, 126 laptop computers, 88 printers, 50 digital senders, 8 blade server cabinets, 209 Cisco network devices, 4 Stonesoft firewalls, 27 EMC high-end data storage systems and 12 EMC data-storage network devices

United Nations Logistics Base Support Services

- Maintenance of 52 buildings (41,657 m^2) and their related appurtenance areas, 26 soft-walls (13,382 m^2) and 236,305 m^2 open areas, including 86,280 m^2 of storage space and 91,100 m^2 roads and parking areas through the management of 31 contractual services, including 11 building maintenance services, 7 ground maintenance services, 9 blanket purchase agreements for supplies and 4 utility contracts
- Renovation of three buildings transferred from the Government of Italy

Security Office

- Provision of security services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week within the Logistics Base
- Completion of the Logistics Base security plan in accordance with Department of Safety and Security security policy
- Support and maintenance of video surveillance of Base premises and holdings

Tenant Units

Regional Aviation Safety Office

- Organization of annual emergency response plan exercises for aircraft accidents at the Logistics Base, UNMIK and UNOMIG
- Provision of advice to the Logistics Base, UNMIK and UNOMIG on the implementation of aviation safety policies, procedures and guidelines provided by United Nations Headquarters or as required per new applicable international procedures
- 10 accident-prevention programme visits to UNMIK (5) and UNOMIG (5)
- 4 carrier assessments of short-term chartered aircraft at the Logistics Base and UNMIK
- Monthly dissemination of materials on aviation safety awareness to the Base, UNMIK and UNOMIG
- 4 carrier survey visits to air operators based in the region as and when tasked by Headquarters
- Organization of quarterly Aviation Safety Council meetings at UNOMIG, UNMIK and the Logistics Base
- Aviation safety assistance visits to UNFICYP and UNIFIL as and when tasked by Headquarters

Strategic Air Operations Centre

- Monitoring and tracking of all United Nations aviation fleet aircraft in peacekeeping missions engaged in strategic long- and short-term passenger and cargo airlift movement as well as inter-mission operations
- Processing of aircraft usage report in a timely manner for analysis of contract performance and compliance
- Maintenance of 24-hour readiness to respond to search and rescue and field mission aeromedical and emergency flights
- Clearance and monitoring of all Department of Peacekeeping Operations worldwide inter-mission flights

Training Delivery Cell

- Conduct 18 civilian predeployment induction-training courses (average of 25 staff members per course), for a total of 450 eligible newly employed civilian international staff members
- Support and conduct two courses for senior mission leaders for 48 potential new civilian and military leaders
- Conduct predeployment training assistance and assessment for Member States upon ad hoc request from Member States and in accordance with the agreed commitment schedule of peacekeeping contingent contributions

- Conduct 1 integrated mission training centre (IMTC) workshop for 36 IMTC and Training Focal Point-training staff members
- Conduct 1 IMTC course for 18 new IMTC and Training Focal-Point training staff members

Geographic Information System Centre

- Provision of a secured repository of global peacekeeping geo-spatial database, including backup and replica, to all field missions and Headquarters
- Support and maintenance of geo-spatial data (maps, digital maps, satellite imagery and terrain analysis products) accessible to all field missions and Headquarters

Engineering Design Unit

- Completion of 10-layout design sets for mission headquarters facilities showing aerial views, and positions of camp areas to be utilized by headquarters in future
- Five complete design sets for mission headquarters facilities, including specifications, bills of quantity and statements of work to be utilized for outsourcing

External factors

- Suppliers will provide goods and services as contracted

Table 1
Human resources: Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, Logistics Base

	International staff										
Civilian staff	*USG-ASG*	*D-2-D-1*	*P-5-P-4*	*P-2-P-1*	*Field Service*	*General Service*	*Security Service*	***Subtotal***	*National staff*[a]	*United Nations Volunteers*	***Total***
Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, United Nations Logistics Base[b]											
Approved posts 2007/08	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	3	3	—	6
Proposed posts 2008/09	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	3	3	—	6
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Security Office											
Approved posts 2007/08	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Proposed posts 2008/09[c]	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	9
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	9
Total											
Approved 2007/08	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	3	3	—	6
Proposed 2008/09	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	3	12	—	15
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	9

[a] Includes National Officers and national General Service staff.
[b] Includes the Legal Officer.
[c] Reflects the realignment/redeployment of two approved posts from an already existing Security Office under the former General Services Section (now Property Management Section).

National staff: Net increase of 9 posts (redeployment and/or realignment of 2 national General Service posts and 7 new national General Service posts)

Security Office

National staff: Net increase of 9 posts (redeployment and/or realignment of 2 national General Service posts and 7 new national General Service posts)

20. A security assessment was conducted by the Department of Safety and Security at the Logistics Base from 19 to 23 November 2007. The assessment was conducted at the request of the Logistics Base to review existing security arrangements within the exclusive use area, develop recommendations for improvement and enhance security awareness. On the basis of the findings and recommendations of the assessment, the Chief, United Nations Logistics Base, would be appointed Area Security Coordinator. The Security Office, comprising two national General Service posts (a Chief Security Officer and a Security Assistant) within the General Services Section, would be realigned and report directly to the Area Security Coordinator. It is proposed that the Security Office, under the direction of the Area Security Coordinator/Chief, United Nations Logistics Base, be reinforced by the establishment of seven new national General Service posts (4 Security Officers and 3 Security Guards). The total staffing establishment of the Security Office would be nine national General Service posts. The overall functions of the Security Office would be:

(a) To implement in the exclusive use area the United Nations security management system and to provide security support to all United Nations entities;

(b) To produce and maintain a security risk assessment for all United Nations staff and authorized dependants, activities and assets in the exclusive use area and Brindisi;

(c) To produce a security plan adapted to the special needs of the exclusive use area, taking into account the arrangements and agreements in place with the host country;

(d) To adopt a "controlled area" approach to critical assets and designate a secured asset disposal site within the exclusive use area.

21. The seven proposed national General Service posts would include four Security Officers and three Security Guards. In accordance with the functions of the Security Office, the Security Officers would be responsible for ensuring the security and safety of Logistics Base assets and personnel within the exclusive use area of the Base through the implementation of appropriate entry/exit screening procedures, including coverage of closed-circuit television, telephone and radio communications systems and associated recording units in the control centres. They would supervise the work of the Security Guards, assist with security investigations of incidents and control pedestrian and vehicular traffic. One of the Security Officers would also serve as Deputy to the Chief Security Officer. The Security Guards would control the exit/entry points of the exclusive use area, screen all personnel and assets entering and leaving the premises, including vehicular traffic, monitor closed-circuit television and electronic identification control, conduct regular daily patrols throughout the Base and monitor fire and safety violations.

Table 2
Human resources: United Nations Logistics Base Support Services

Civilian staff	International staff								National staff[a]	United Nations Volunteers	Total
	USG-ASG	D-2-D-1	P-5-P-4	P-3-P-1	Field Service	General Service	Security Service	Subtotal			
Office of the Chief, United Nations Logistics Base Support Services											
Approved posts 2007/08	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3
Proposed posts 2008/09	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Finance and Budget Section											
Approved posts 2007/08	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	3	9	—	12
Proposed posts 2008/09	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	3	9	—	12
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Personnel Section											
Approved posts 2007/08	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	8	—	10
Proposed posts 2008/09	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	8	—	10
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Approved temporary positions 2007/08[b]	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	6
Proposed temporary positions 2008/09[b]	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	7	—	8
Net change	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
Procurement Section											
Approved posts 2007/08	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	9	—	11
Proposed posts 2008/09	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	9	—	11
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Facilities and Management Section											
Approved posts 2007/08	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	12	—	13
Proposed posts 2008/09	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	12	—	13
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Property Management Section (ex-General Services Section)											
Approved posts 2007/08	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	15	—	16
Proposed posts 2008/09	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	13	—	15
Net change	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	(2)	—	(1)
Medical Clinic (ex-General Services Section)											
Approved posts 2007/08	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Proposed posts 2008/09[c]	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
Net change	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2

Total civilian staff											
Approved posts 2007/08	—	—	4	2	4	—	—	10	55	—	65
Proposed posts 2008/09	—	—	5	3	4	—	—	12	54	—	66
Net change	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	(1)	—	1
Approved temporary positions (2007/08)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	6
Proposed temporary positions (2008/09)	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	7	—	8
Net change	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
Total											
Approved posts 2007/08	—	—	4	2	4	—	—	10	61	—	71
Proposed posts 2008/09	—	—	5	4	4	—	—	13	61	—	74
Net change	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	3	—	—	3

[a] Includes National Officers and national General Service staff.
[b] Includes 6 temporary positions of the Recruitment and Outreach Unit.
[c] Reflects the realignment of one approved post from an already existing Medical Clinic from the former General Services Section (now the Property Management Section).

International staff: Net increase of 3 posts/positions (1 P-4 and 1 P-2 post, 1 P-3 general temporary assistance position)

National staff: Net increase of zero (realignment of 1 national General Service post offset by 1 national General Service post)

Personnel Section

International staff: Net increase of 1 position (P-3 general temporary assistance)

National staff: Net increase of 1 position (national general temporary assistance position)

22. The Personnel Section has, over the past several years, seen an increase in its workload, which has reached critical levels. The Section comprises 10 personnel (1 P-4, 1 Field Service and 8 national General Service staff) and administers, on average, some 242 staff. In addition, the Section administers the travel and related entitlements of personnel who participate in the predeployment and other training programmes conducted at the Logistics Base. In addition, the activities of the Recruitment and Outreach Unit in support of recruitment for peacekeeping missions have also had an impact on the workload of the Section, particularly in the area of the administration of entitlements and travel. Accordingly, and pending the decision on the long-term perspective of the Logistics Base in the context of the 2009/10 proposed budget, the proposal has been made to temporarily reinforce the staffing establishment of the Personnel Section through the establishment of the positions of Human Resources Officer (P-3) and Human Resources Assistant (national General Service) under general temporary assistance.

23. The Human Resources Officer, reporting to the Chief of the Personnel Section, would oversee contract administration, recruitment and entitlements processing. In addition, the incumbent would be responsible for the work of the travel office, including support to the Logistics Base integrated training service, inter alia, with predeployment training programmes of personnel recruited for peace operations.

24. The Human Resources Assistant would assist the Chief, Personnel Section, in all areas of vacancy management, including the provision of secretariat support to the local appointment and promotion panel and for Headquarters review. In addition, the incumbent would assist in processing the medical claims of Logistics Base staff and their dependants, the administration of dependency benefits, induction training for all new staff, staffing table administration and leave management.

Property Management Section (former General Services Section)

International staff: Net increase of 1 post (P-2)

National staff: Net decrease of 2 posts (1 national General Service post offset by the realignment of 3 national General Service posts)

25. With the realignment of the Security Office into the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer and the Medical Clinic into Logistics Base Support Services, the Mail and Pouch Unit from the former General Services Section has now been absorbed into the Property Management Section. The functions of the Section will consist primarily of property-management-related work.

26. A proposal has been made to establish a Codification Unit within the Section to handle the increased workload in the area of codification in support of the Department of Field Support and field missions. Codification is a process of a recurrent and perennial nature. It requires continuous monitoring and improvements in data quality and in the planning and execution of additional tasks and projects. An improved codification system will have a positive impact on all mission inventories and result in a considerable reduction in processing time in the Galileo inventory management system. Further data standardization and harmonization needs to be undertaken in order to meet the increased demand for information on expendables by missions and oversight bodies. With a view to ensuring greater efficiency in codification and inventory management, the Unit's role will also include primary responsibility for the codification of all assets, which previously was carried out in part by self-accounting units across peacekeeping missions.

27. The functions of the Unit will include codifying sets and expendables and mapping asset descriptions through cross-functional management systems. Those tasks are also essential in the lead-up to the implementation of enterprise resource planning systems and International Public Sector Accounting Standards.

28. Given the above, it is proposed to reinforce the staffing establishment of the Section through the establishment of the posts of Property Management Officer (Codification), at the P-2 level, and of Property Management Assistant, at the national General Service level.

29. The Property Management Officer (Codification) would assume a supervisory role in the Unit and report to the Chief of the Property Management Section. The incumbent would formulate and establish protocols and procedures relating to codification and set up related training programmes for self-accounting units at headquarters and in the field. In addition, the Officer would oversee the development of codification issues on final data cleansing in the Galileo inventory management system and be responsible for the production of a system for codifying expendables and for developing benchmarks on codification activities.

30. The Property Management Assistant (national General Service) would support the Property Management Officer (Codification). The incumbent would assist the Property Management Officer (Codification) by monitoring and measuring the accuracy and consistency of inventory data (prior-period closing balance and current-period opening balance) in terms of actual quantity of property holdings and their value. The incumbent would prepare reports on a daily basis to ensure, to the extent possible, compliance and conformity with the requirements in the planned results-based-budgeting outputs, along with explanations for any deviation. In that connection, the incumbent would also focus on the daily control of expendable acquisitions, the transfer of vouchers and work orders with the necessary value adjustments for financial reporting, as well as the standardization of item descriptions in line with Headquarters guidelines, and validation of Galileo inventory management system performance.

31. One national General Service post of Nurse would be redeployed to the Medical Clinic, reporting to the Chief, Logistics Base Support Services. Two national General Service posts of Chief Security Officer and Security Assistant would be redeployed to the Security Office, reporting directly to the Chief Administrative Officer, Logistics Base, in line with the implementation of the recommendations of the assessment report of the Department of Safety and Security.

Medical Clinic (former General Services Section)

International staff: Net increase of 1 post (P-4)

National staff: Net increase of zero (1 national General Service post offset by realignment of the post of Nurse from the former General Services Section)

32. The Medical Clinic, part of the former General Services Section, is a walk-in clinic facility addressing "first treatment" health issues for Logistics Base staff members and their dependants (both international and national), contractual staff, including ICC, UNOPS, Trygen and WFP staff, and participants in training programmes at the Base. The Clinic is currently staffed by three local doctors on a part-time and contractual basis. They are supported by a full-time Nurse (national General Service staff) and a part-time Administrative Assistant (individual contractor). The Clinic, with the current contractual staffing and one established Nurse, provides basic-level medical support, maintains medical records and documentation, performs entry and periodic examinations and provides travel medicine and advisory services (vaccinations and travel kits, preventative medicine and health promotion). The Clinic is expected to respond to United Nations emergencies in the geographical vicinity of the Base, provide educational courses and serve as a pandemic contingency to support national preparedness and response activities.

33. In view of the above, the establishment of a fully functional level 1 medical facility has been proposed. Bearing in mind the immediate operational requirements of the Base and pending the establishment of a fully functional Medical Clinic that meets level 1 standards, the establishment of a post of Medical Officer (P-4) is proposed in lieu of the continued use of part-time medical professionals. The post of Nurse (national General Service) would be realigned from the former General Services Section to support the Medical Officer.

34. The Medical Officer (P-4) would be in charge of the day-to-day operation of the Medical Clinic, with responsibilities including clinical duties, covering emergencies, administering pre-placement and periodic medical examinations, giving immunizations, providing specialist referrals, ensuring follow-up consultations with specialists, providing health advisory services and addressing issues related to the work environment and to occupational safety and health. In addition, the Medical Officer would advise the Chief of Logistics Base Support Services on medical standards for recruitment and absences as well as medical evacuations in accordance with United Nations policies and guidelines. The Medical Officer would also provide guidance to the Nurse (national General Service) in ensuring the availability of supplies and the proper functioning of medical equipment. Finally, the incumbent would ensure the implementation of appropriate training programmes in order to maintain and develop the necessary medical capabilities (e.g., health education, HIV/AIDS prevention, first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation). The establishment of the post of Medical Officer would be offset by the discontinuation of the current part-time contracted arrangements.

Table 3
Human resources: Logistics Support Services

	International staff										
Civilian staff	*USG-ASG*	*D-2-D-1*	*P-5-P-4*	*P-3-P-1*	*Field Service*	*General Service*	*Security Service*	***Subtotal***	*National staff[a]*	*United Nations Volunteers*	***Total***
Office of the Chief, Logistics Support Services											
Approved posts 2007/08	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3
Proposed posts 2008/09	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Logistics Operations Section											
Approved posts 2007/08	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	3	22	—	25
Proposed posts 2008/09	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	3	25	—	28
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3
Transport Section											
Approved posts 2007/08	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	3	20	—	23
Proposed posts 2008/09	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	3	22	—	25
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Approved temporary positions 2007/08	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Proposed temporary positions 2008/09	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Total Transport Section											
Approved posts 2007/08	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	3	20	—	23
Proposed posts 2008/09	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	3	23	—	26
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3

Civilian staff	International staff								National staff[a]	United Nations Volunteers	Total
	USG-ASG	D-2-D-1	P-5-P-4	P-3-P-1	Field Service	General Service	Security Service	Subtotal			
Supply Section											
Approved posts 2007/08	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	12	—	14
Proposed posts 2008/09	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	15	—	17
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3
Engineering Section											
Approved posts 2007/08	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	22	—	24
Proposed posts 2008/09	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	23	—	25
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Total civilian staff											
Approved posts 2007/08	—	—	4	1	6	—	—	11	78	—	89
Proposed posts 2008/09	—	—	4	1	6	—	—	11	87	—	98
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	9
Approved temporary positions 2007/08	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Proposed temporary positions 2008/09	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Total											
Approved posts 2007/08	—	—	4	1	6	—	—	11	78	—	89
Proposed posts 2008/09	—	—	4	1	6	—	—	11	88	—	99
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	10

[a] Includes National Officers and national General Service staff.

National staff: Net increase of 10 posts (national General Service)

Logistics Operations Section

National staff: Net increase of 3 posts (national General Service)

35. The Receipt and Inspection Unit of the Logistics Operations Section conducts critical quality control of all materiel received at the Logistics Base, including strategic deployment stocks and missions' trans-shipments via the Base. Eight personnel working independently conduct physical inspections. They have the necessary specialized technical expertise and quality-control experience and training, as well as skills in material handling and packaging, to conduct such inspections. Of the eight, four are national General Service staff, and four are independent contractors. Contractors are used to deal with the increased workload in the area of receiving and inspection. The contractors in question are subject-matter specialists in quality control in the technical areas of engineering, transport, supply and information and communications technology. They are also experts in the proper handling of dangerous goods, safe handling practices and the identification of infestation and other hazards in incoming shipments. They also update and input

into United Nations information management systems, including Galileo and Mercury.

36. In keeping with the objective of regularizing ongoing functions of a core nature, given the difficulties in mandating temporary arrangements for contractual staff in the longer term owing to local and national labour provisions and given the Organization's objective of making maximum use of national capacity, it is proposed that three independent contractor positions be converted to the national General Service staff posts of Receiving and Inspection Assistants.

Supply Section

National staff: Net increase of 3 posts (national General Service)

37. The Supply Section is responsible for the warehousing, storage and maintenance of strategic deployment stocks and United Nations reserve stocks, including generators, prefabricated buildings and related equipment. In addition, in the past several years, the Section has assumed responsibility for the storage and maintenance of X-ray scanning and closed-circuit television systems for security, air operations equipment and non-professional audio-visual systems through the use of a number of independent contractual staff. In keeping with the objective of regularizing ongoing functions of a core nature, given the difficulties in mandating temporary arrangements for contractual staff in the longer term owing to local and international labour provisions and given the Organization's objective of making maximum use of national capacity, it is proposed that three independent contractual staff positions be converted to national General Service Supply Assistant posts. The incumbents of the posts under the supervision of the Chief of the Section, would also focus, in addition to the normal warehousing, storage and maintenance functions, on planning and organizing, contract management, packing and preservation processes and quality control and customer support, as well as client feedback analysis.

Transport Section

National staff: Net increase of 3 posts/positions (2 national General Service posts and 1 national General Service general temporary assistance position)

38. The vehicle body shop operation of the Transport Section at the Logistics Base comprises five personnel — three in national General Service posts and two contracted logistical support personnel. That personnel supports both the Logistics Base fleet and the Strategic Deployment Stocks fleet, performs assessor functions and facilitates a quick turnaround time for the repair of damaged vehicles received at the Logistics Base, and oversees the effective refurbishment of the United Nations reserve fleet, including heavy vehicles such as aircraft K-loaders, Caterpillar Motor Graders (heavy construction equipment), recovery trucks and mine-hardened patrol vehicles. Given the continuing nature of vehicle mechanics functions and taking into account the local host-country laws on the employment of independent contractors performing functions of a continuing nature, as well as the Organization's objective of making maximum and optimal use of national capacity, it is proposed that two national General Service posts be established as vehicle mechanic posts. That would enable the regularization of the independent contractors as national staff of the Logistics Base. At the same time, the level of transport activities in support of the Training Delivery Cell has increased as a result of

additional training activities, including core induction, convoy and hostage-situation training, as well as of the Tenant Units. In view of the surge in transport activities, it is proposed that a Driver position (national General Service), funded under general temporary assistance, be established. The incumbent, along with other Drivers, would support activities such as liaison office requirements, the transportation of trainers and supplies, the running and testing of Strategic Deployment Stocks vehicles, the collection of vehicles from vendors, the washing of vehicles, and so on.

Engineering Section

National staff: Net increase of 1 post (national General Service)

39. The Engineering Section of the Logistics Support Services is responsible for the receipt, maintenance, storage and shipment of strategic deployment stocks (generators, kitchen equipment, containers, water purification systems and Rubb halls) and the refurbishment and management of United Nations reserve stock. In addition, the Section is also responsible for the preparation and supervision of projects, the scope of work, the review of statements of work, drawings and specifications, and the evaluation of technical proposals, designing structures and systems as required; the coordination of work done by consultant engineers, the supervision of work during construction phases, and building renovations handed over to the Logistics Base in keeping with the addendum to the memorandum of understanding signed by the Secretary-General and the Republic of Italy on 23 November 1994. The Section includes Generator Support, Mission Material Support and the Projects Unit. The role of the Projects Unit is to prepare general and technical requirements, the scope of work for various Logistics Base budgeted projects and evaluation criteria for offers from bidders; conduct a technical evaluation of offers; prepare consultant/contractor performance reports; supervise project implementation; and provide technical assistance during budget preparation. Currently, only one staff member holding the post of Junior Architect is involved in this function, under the direct supervision of the Chief Engineer. To augment the staffing establishment of the Section given the heavier workload stemming from the increased number of engineering projects to be undertaken and the higher number of contractors to be managed, the establishment of an additional post of Junior Architect (national General Service) is proposed.

Table 4
Human resources: Communications and Information Technology Services

	International staff										
Civilian staff	*USG-ASG*	*D-2-D-1*	*P-5-P-4*	*P-3-P-1*	*Field Service*	*General Service*	*Security Service*	*Subtotal*	*National staff*	*United Nations Volunteers*	*Total*
Office of the Chief, Communications and Information Technology Services											
Approved posts 2007/08	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3
Proposed posts 2008/09	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	4
Net change	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Network Systems Section											
Approved posts 2007/08	—	—	—	1	7	—	—	8	7	—	15
Proposed posts 2008/09	—	—	—	1	6	—	—	7	7	—	14
Net change	—	—	—	—	(1)	—	—	(1)	—	—	(1)
Systems Support Section											
Approved posts 2007/08	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	3	—	5
Proposed posts 2008/09	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	3	—	5
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Integrated Maintenance, Campus Support and Assets Management Unit											
Approved posts 2007/08	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	23	—	24
Proposed posts 2008/09	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	23	—	25
Net change	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1
Total											
Approved posts 2007/08	—	—	1	2	9	—	—	12	35	—	47
Proposed posts 2008/09	—	—	2	2	9	—	—	13	35	—	48
Net change	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1

International staff: Net increase of 1 post (establishment of one P-4 post)

Office of the Chief, Communications and Information Technology Services

International staff: Net increase of 1 post (reclassification of an existing P-4 post to the P-5 level and establishment of 1 P-4 post)

40. The Communications and Information Technology Services, at the Logistics Base, has become a global and strategic information and communications technology hub and serves as the main bridge for data communications such as e-mail, telephone communications and videoconferencing sessions among all the peacekeeping operations worldwide and United Nations Headquarters. It hosts 155 satellite communications links. In addition, it monitors and coordinates the establishment and operation of 800 satellite communications links in all United Nations peacekeeping operations. In addition, the Service operates an enterprise

data centre hosting more than 400 servers and associated software applications. It acts as a disaster recovery and business continuity centre, backing up all data of United Nations peacekeeping missions, and hosts all global software systems. Over the past few years, the extent and volume of the support provided to the Department of Field Support, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, peacekeeping operations worldwide and other United Nations entities (the Economic Commission for Africa, the United Nations Office at Nairobi, the United Nations Office at Geneva, the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, the Special Court for Sierra Leone, the International Criminal Court, the United Nations International Independent Investigation Commission, WFP, the United Nations Office for West Africa, the United Nations Office at Vienna, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, etc.) has increased significantly.

41. The Department of Field Support currently hosts many field-specific field mission systems at the Base. These include, but are not limited to, Lotus Notes e-mail, Galileo supply-chain management and Mercury, as well as numerous websites and portals in support of peacekeeping operations. This complex and integrated operation at the Logistics Base data centre is essential in meeting many of the administrative and substantive needs of the United Nations peacekeeping community.

42. The current staffing establishment of the Services of 47 international and national staff, along with 140 contractual staff comprising 107 staff of the United Nations agencies (ICC and UNOPS), 17 international contractors (Trygen) and 16 independent contractors, are instrumental to the day-to-day operation and functioning of the Services.

43. The Project Managers assigned from ICC and UNOPS to the Logistics Base are at the senior level (P-5), while the Chief of the Communications and Information Technology Services is at the P-4 level. The current functions of the Chief include:

(a) Overseeing the overall implementation, management and strategies of the communications and information technology infrastructure at the Base;

(b) Ensuring that planned activities are well coordinated within the United Nations system, in liaison with Headquarters and peacekeeping operations;

(c) Developing conceptual operations and implementation strategies and tactics;

(d) Providing information and communications technology common services at the Base.

44. Given that the responsibilities of the Chief of the Communications and Information Technology Services (P-4) include the management and operation of the largest and most complex information and communications technology infrastructure in the United Nations system, which involves coordination and interaction with senior managers across the system in connection with the implementation and management of the global communications hub, and given the significant increase in resources managed over the past several years, it is proposed that the level of responsibilities be reclassified from the P-4 to the P-5 level. That would ensure that critical information and communications technology support for

field missions is maintained and that plans are in place to meet the future needs of peace operations and the United Nations global communications hub.

45. The Board of Auditors, pursuant to the observations contained in its report for the period ending 30 June 2007 (see A/62/5(Vol. II), chap. II) on information and communications technology security standards and procedures, recommended that the Logistics Base, in conjunction with Headquarters, expedite the establishment of a function dedicated to the development and enforcement of information and communications technology security standards and procedures. It is proposed that a post of Senior Information Security Management Officer at the P-4 level be established in the Office of the Chief of the Communications and Information Technology Services. The Senior Information Security Management Officer would be responsible for the management and operations of the Department of Field Support-Logistics Base information security management system and ensure that compliance with the established information security control objectives is achieved. The functions of the incumbent would include the responsibility to:

(a) Plan, design, develop and implement the necessary information and communications technology multidisciplinary policies, procedures and processes, as well as maintain the information security management system;

(b) Ensure the protection of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations-Department of Field Support information assets hosted at the Logistics Base;

(c) Apply the countermeasures necessary to eliminate or reduce vulnerabilities and exposures to electronic threats;

(d) Reduce, mitigate, eliminate or avoid risks to information assets;

(e) Develop and deliver information security awareness training.

Network Systems Section

International staff: Net decrease of 1 post (Field Service)

46. It is proposed that the Field Service post of Network Control Centre Supervisor be redeployed from the Network Systems Section to manage and coordinate the overall operation of the Integrated Maintenance, Campus Support and Assets Management Unit. Such redeployment was proposed in the 2007/08 proposed budget in the context of the reorganization of the Logistics Base and is being presented again to address the issue of the specialization of the Integrated Maintenance, Campus Support and Assets Management Unit.

Integrated Maintenance, Campus Support and Assets Management Unit

International staff: Net increase of 1 post (Field Service)

47. It is proposed that the staffing establishment of the Integrated Maintenance, Campus Support and Asset Management Unit be augmented by the establishment of one Field Service post of Network Control Centre Supervisor, to be accommodated by the redeployment of the post and incumbent from the Network Systems Section. The functions of the post remain unchanged. The objective of the proposed redeployment is to better align functions with the structure of the CITS.

Table 5
Human resources: Tenant Units

	International staff										
	USG-ASG	*D-2-D-1*	*P-5-P-4*	*P-3-P-1*	*Field Service*	*General Service*	*Security Service*	*Subtotal*	*National staff*	*United Nations Volunteers*	*Total*
Training Delivery Cell											
Approved posts 2007/08	—	—	4	4	—	—	—	8	2	—	10
Proposed posts 2008/09	—	—	4	4	—	—	—	8	2	—	10
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Approved temporary positions 2007/08	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Proposed temporary positions 2008/09	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Subtotal											
Approved 2007/08	—	—	4	4	—	—	—	8	2	—	10
Proposed 2008/09	—	—	4	4	—	—	—	8	2	—	10
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Regional Aviation and Safety Office											
Approved posts 2007/08	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Proposed posts 2008/09	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Approved temporary positions 2007/08	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Proposed temporary positions 2008/09	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Subtotal											
Approved 2007/08	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Proposed 2008/09	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Strategic Air Operations Centre											
Approved posts 2007/08	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	3	—	—	3
Proposed posts 2008/09	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	3	—	—	3
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Approved temporary positions 2007/08	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	2
Proposed temporary positions 2008/09	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	2
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

	International staff										
	USG-ASG	*D-2-D-1*	*P-5-P-4*	*P-3-P-1*	*Field Service*	*General Service*	*Security Service*	*Subtotal*	*National staff*	*United Nations Volunteers*	*Total*
Subtotal											
Approved 2007/08	—	—	1	2	1	—	—	4	1	—	5
Proposed 2008/09	—	—	1	2	1	—	—	4	1	—	5
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Engineering Design Unit											
Approved posts 2007/08	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Proposed posts 2008/09	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Approved temporary positions 2007/08	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	2	—	4
Proposed temporary positions 2008/09	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	2	—	4
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Subtotal											
Approved 2007/08	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	2	—	4
Proposed 2008/09	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	2	—	4
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Geographical Information Systems Centre											
Approved posts 2007/08	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Proposed posts 2008/09	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Approved temporary positions 2007/08	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	5	—	7
Proposed temporary positions 2008/09	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	5	—	7
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Subtotal											
Approved 2007/08	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	3	5	—	8
Proposed 2008/09	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	3	5	—	8
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total											
Approved posts 2007/08	—	—	6	8	—	—	—	14	2	—	16
Proposed posts 2008/09	—	—	6	8	—	—	—	14	2	—	16
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Approved temporary positions 2007/08	—	—	1	2	2	—	—	5	8	—	13
Proposed temporary positions 2008/09	—	—	1	2	2	—	—	5	8	—	13
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

	International staff										
	USG-ASG	D-2-D-1	P-5-P-4	P-3-P-1	Field Service	General Service	Security Service	Subtotal	National staff	United Nations Volunteers	Total
Total											
Approved 2007/08	—	—	7	10	2	—	—	19	10	—	29
Proposed 2008/09	—	—	7	10	2	—	—	19	10	—	29
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

II. Planning assumptions and financial resources

A. Planning assumptions

1. Overall

48. The objective of the Logistics Base, as it is for the support account, has been to ensure efficient and effective peacekeeping operations. During the 2008/09 period, the role and focus of the Logistics Base will change to meet the evolving requirements not only of peacekeeping operations but also of the United Nations system as a whole.

49. The number of facilities available for use by the Logistics Base has grown. The Base currently comprises 22 warehouses, 12 workshops and technical buildings, 18 office buildings, a training centre and 12 open areas.

50. The role of the Base has expanded from predominately logistics and the strategic deployment of stocks in support of peacekeeping operations to providing support to Headquarters, offices away from Headquarters, special political missions and other Secretariat and system-wide operations.

51. During the 2008/09 period, the Logistics Base will continue to be responsible for:

(a) Storage, maintenance, receipt, inspection, issuance and rotation of vehicles, engineering materials and supplies and equipment needed to start and sustain peacekeeping missions;

(b) Maintenance and operation of worldwide information and communications technology networks for peacekeeping missions and headquarters, including satellite links for the provision of worldwide voice, video and data networks, and disaster recovery capability;

(c) Refurbishment of vehicles, generators and air-conditioning units for inclusion in United Nations reserve stocks and reissuance to peacekeeping missions;

(d) Strategic oversight of all peacekeeping operations intra-mission flights, including support for special flights, and analysis of the aircraft usage reports of all peacekeeping operations to ensure efficient fleet management, contract performance and compliance with United Nations charter agreements;

(e) Objective, in-depth air safety oversight and audit, hazards identification and risk analysis, definition of dangerous trends and identification of the need for corrective action by the affiliated missions;

(f) Ground support for aircraft movements through the Logistics Base;

(g) Hosting, coordination and delivery of training programmes in Member States, national and regional peacekeeping training centres and integrated mission training centres, as well as support for the delivery of training by other entities as requested, including the provision of conference services for all training hosted at the Base.

52. In addition to its current role, the Logistics Base, during the 2008/09 period, is also expected:

(a) To complement the work of the Secretariat by hosting hubs for telecommunications and computer operations for all offices of the Secretariat. The Logistics Base would thereby facilitate the implementation of a strengthened and unified security management system for the United Nations in the context of a global operational framework for information and communications technology security and for disaster recovery and business continuity;

(b) To host data centres for United Nations system-wide enterprise resource planning systems.

53. A comprehensive report on the initial activities of the standing police capacity, to be prepared by a panel of experts including representatives of Member States, will be submitted in summer 2008. The report will address issues relevant to the future of the standing police capacity, including its core functions, required strength, expertise needs and the location of its base of operations. Accordingly, resources related to the standing police capacity will, as in the past, not be included under the proposed budget of the base.

54. The long-term perspective also includes consideration of the implementation of United Nations system-wide enterprise resource planning systems, the Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity process and a global United Nations communications hub. In that regard, a need has been identified for a secondary active communications facility to complement the United Nations Logistics Base and to host Secretariat enterprise system solutions as part of the three-tiered global disaster recovery and business continuity framework. This involves the establishment of two major centralized data centres at the Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, and a proposed secondary site in Valencia, Spain. A report listing the requirements for the proposed data centres and the secondary site will be submitted for consideration by the General Assembly at its resumed sixty-second session.

55. Another long-term issue relates to the use of contractual staff for extended periods as a result of local and national labour regulations. Accordingly, it is proposed that a few contractual positions in the Logistics Support Services be converted to national General Service posts in this context, given the continuing nature of the functions involved.

(a) Regional mission cooperation

56. The United Nations Logistics Base would continue to provide support to the World Food Programme in terms of both ground handling support to the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot centre in Brindisi and general support for the WFP training centre at San Vito, Italy. Support would also be provided to the International Computing Centre. ICC, in support of the Communications and Information Technology Services, and UNOPS are also located within the exclusive use area.

57. As concerns air transportation, the Regional Aviation Safety Office, established on 1 July 2006, provides safety oversight for UNMIK and UNOMIG. The Office has also assisted the United Nations Mission in Nepal and UNIFIL in the area of aviation safety; such assistance will continue in the 2008/09 period. Emergency-response-plan exercises aimed at dealing with aircraft accidents will be organized and conducted during the period for missions within the regional purview. During the 2008/09 period, the Office plans to expand the scope and coverage of its aviation safety oversight programme to include UNIFIL and UNFICYP.

(b) Partnerships, country team coordination and integrated missions

58. In addition to its long-standing relationship with WFP, the Logistics Base has expanded its cooperation with other agencies in the hosting of inter-agency Information and Communications Technology conferences and in providing logistics training support to the multinational Standby High-Readiness Brigade. In addition, application hosting and network connectivity services are provided to several agencies, funds and programmes (ECA, the United Nations Office at Nairobi, the United Nations Office at Vienna, the International Criminal Court, the Special Court for Sierra Leone, the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, the United Nations International Independent Investigation Commission, the United Nations Office at Geneva and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East).

59. In the area of security and safety, and in close collaboration with the Department of Safety and Security, the Logistics Base is expected to assume the role of Area Security Coordinator for the exclusive use area at the Base, thus centring responsibility for security for the United Nations entities at Brindisi under one roof.

2. Efficiency gains

60. The cost estimates for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 take into account the following efficiency initiatives:

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Amount*	*Initiative*
Communications and information technology	58.7	Consolidation and virtualization of servers to achieve a relative reduction in server footprint, reduce operational costs and improve the reliability of systems and data
	16.1	Adoption of Information Technology Infrastructure Library industry best practices for service management in the area of service support
	14.0	Implementation of least-cost routing and user profiling to reduce the overall cost for fixed and mobile telephone traffic by 15 per cent
Total	**88.8**	

3. Vacancy factors

61. The cost estimates for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 take into account the following vacancy factors:

(Percentage)

Category	*Actual 2006/07*	*Budgeted 2007/08*	*Projected 2008/09*
Civilian personnel			
International staff	27.7	7.0	15.0
National staff	4.8	5.0	5.0
Temporary positions[a]			
International staff	—	50	15.0
National staff	—	50	5.0

[a] Funded under general temporary assistance.

B. Financial resources

1. Overall

(Thousands of United States dollars. Budget year is 1 July to 30 June.)

Category	Expenditures (2006/07) (1)	Apportionment (2007/08) (2)	Cost estimates (2008/09) (3)	Variance Amount (4)=(3)-(2)	Variance Percentage (5)=(4)÷(2)
Military and police personnel					
Military observers	—	—	—	—	—
Military contingents	—	—	—	—	—
United Nations police	—	—	—	—	—
Formed police units	—	—	—	—	—
Subtotal	—	—	—	—	—
Civilian personnel					
International staff	5 746.1	6 288.8	7 395.0	1 106.2	17.6
National staff	9 488.3	11 119.3	13 565.7	2 446.4	22.0
United Nations Volunteers	—	—	—	—	—
General temporary assistance[a]	145.6	941.4	1 912.3	970.9	103.1
Subtotal	**15 380.0**	**18 349.5**	**22 873.0**	**4 523.5**	**24.7**
Operational costs					
Government-provided personnel	—	—	—	—	—
Civilian electoral observers	—	—	—	—	—
Consultants	282.8	532.7	461.1	(71.6)	(13.4)
Official travel	232.1	628.0	923.8	295.8	47.1
Facilities and infrastructure	4 461.3	5 698.5	6 300.6	602.1	10.6
Ground transportation	704.0	945.5	752.0	(193.5)	(20.5)
Air transportation	—	—	—	—	—
Naval transportation	—	—	—	—	—
Communications	4 241.6	4 882.0	5 100.1	218.1	4.5
Information technology	3 996.5	5 269.0	5 616.9	347.9	6.6
Medical	384.3	377.0	251.1	(125.9)	(33.4)
Special equipment	—	—	—	—	—
Other supplies, services and	3 246.6	3 697.4	3 548.8	(148.6)	(4.0)
Quick-impact projects	—	—	—	—	—
Subtotal	**17 549.2**	**22 030.1**	**22 954.4**	**924.3**	**4.2**
Gross requirements	**32 929.2**	**40 379.6**	**45 827.4**	**5 447.8**	**13.5**
Staff assessment income	2 241.2	2 692.4	3 492.8	800.4	29.7
Net requirements	**30 688.0**	**37 687.2**	**42 334.6**	**4 647.4**	**12.3**
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)	—	—	—	—	—
Total requirements	**32 929.2**	**40 379.6**	**45 827.4**	**5 447.8**	**13.5**

[a] Reflects the realignment of the cost of temporary positions funded under general temporary assistance from operational to civilian personnel costs.

2. Non-budgeted contributions

62. The estimated value of non-budgeted contributions for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 is as follows:

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Estimated value*
Voluntary contributions in kind (non-budgeted)[a]	2 670.7
Total	**2 670.7**

[a] Inclusive of office buildings, workshop, warehouse structures and open spaces provided by the Government of Italy.

3. Training

63. The estimated resource requirements for training for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 are as follows:

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Estimated amount*
Consultants	
Training consultants	376.1
Official travel	
Official travel, training	554.5
Other supplies, services and equipment	
Training fees, supplies and services	204.6
Total	**1 135.2**

64. The number of participants planned for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009, compared with previous periods, is as follows:

(Number of participants)[a]

	International staff			*National staff*			*Military and police personnel*[b]		
	Actual 2006/07	*Planned 2007/08*	*Proposed 2008/09*	*Actual 2006/07*	*Planned 2007/08*	*Proposed 2008/09*	*Actual 2006/07*	*Planned 2007/08*	*Proposed 2008/09*
Internal	23	639	776	136	318	457	0	0	48
External[c]	6	14	24	11	18	73	69	674	172
Total	**29**	**653**	**800**	**147**	**336**	**530**	**69**	**674**	**220**

[a] Excludes 24 members of the African Union mission.

[b] The military and police personnel indicated are participants in training courses held at Brindisi (internal) or conducted by Logistics Base training services at locations (external) of the contributing countries.

[c] Includes United Nations Logistics Base and outside the mission area.

65. The training of personnel focuses on both external and internal training. External training focuses on aviation and aviation safety, certification and recertification in the transportation of dangerous goods, communications and information technology, predeployment training and training recognition programmes for Member States, ground transportation, facilities management, travel and tropical medicines, leadership and management and supply chain management. Internal training programmes focus on conflict mediation and negotiation; financial management and monitoring; geographical information systems; civilian induction training programmes; the upgrading of substantive and technical skills, in particular in the field of stock management; communications hub and information technology network operations; safety programmes; and the management and administration of the Logistics Base. A total of 1,550 personnel are expected to be trained during the period including 220 military and police personnel. Not reflected in that number are 24 members of the African Union mission, who are expected to attend senior mission leader training courses. Of the total number of personnel planned to be trained, 24 members of the African Union mission and 269 participants — 24 international and 73 national staff as well as 172 military and police personnel — will attend training programmes held outside the Base. Some 1,281 participants will be trained within the Base.

66. Over the past three periods, the number of participants in training courses has increased from a total of 245 in the 2006/07 period to a projected 1,663 in 2007/08 and a planned 1,550 in 2008/09, excluding the 24 members of the African Union mission. At the same time, the total number of participants in external training in the 2008/09 period has decreased in contrast to those training in-house at the Base in the 2007/08 period. The number of participants in internal training programmes has increased from 159 in 2006/07 to 957 in 2007/08 to a proposed 1,281 in 2008/09. Emphasis is also on capacity-building in respect of national staff, with the number of participants in in-house training increasing from 136 in 2006/07 to 318 in 2007/08 to the 457 planned for the 2008/09 period.

III. Analysis of variances[1]

Reference

The present section describes the single largest contributing factor of each resource variance according to specific standard options encompassed in the four standard categories listed below:

- **Mandate**: variances caused by changes in the scale or scope of the mandate, or changes in the expected accomplishments as driven by the mandate
- **External**: variances caused by parties or situations external to the United Nations
- **Cost parameters**: variances caused by United Nations regulations, rules and policies
- **Management**: variances caused by management actions to achieve planned results more effectively (e.g. by reprioritizing or adding certain outputs) or efficiently (e.g. by taking measures to reduce personnel or operational inputs while maintaining the same level of outputs) and/or from performance-related issues (e.g. by having underestimated the costs or quantities of inputs required to produce a certain level of outputs, or by delayed recruitment)

	Variance	
International staff	$1 106.2	17.6%

• Cost parameters and management: additional inputs and outputs

67. The additional requirement of $1,106,200 is attributable to the salaries and related costs for a total of 53 international staff — a net increase of three new posts (1 P-5, 1 P-4 and 1 P-2). The provisions are based on salary costs derived from the actual average expenditure by staff category and grade levels in the 2006/07 period and reflect the application of a 15 per cent vacancy rate. The computation of common staff costs is based on 56 per cent of net salaries for international staff. In contrast, in the 2007/08 budget the provisions under this heading reflected a vacancy rate of 50 per cent for all proposed new posts, whereas a vacancy rate of 7 per cent was applied for all other international staff posts.

	Variance	
National staff	$2 446.4	22.0%

• Cost parameters and management: additional inputs and outputs

68. The additional requirement of $2,446,400 is due partly to the requirements for 17 additional national General Service posts, seven of which are for the

[1] Resource variance amounts are expressed in thousands of United States dollars. Analysis is provided for variances of at least plus or minus 5 per cent or $100,000.

reinforcement of the Security Office and 10 for the Logistics Support Services. The overall provisions reflect the application of salaries and related costs at the G-4, step X, of the salary scale in effect as at 1 February 2007, an exchange rate of €0.73 to $1 and the application of a 5 per cent vacancy rate. This is in contrast to the 2007/08 period, where the provisions reflected a vacancy rate of 50 per cent for new posts and a vacancy rate of 5 per cent for all other national General Service staff posts.

	Variance	
General temporary assistance	$970.9	103.1%

- **Cost parameters and management: additional inputs and outputs**

69. The additional requirement of $970,900 under this heading is attributed in part to the proposed establishment of one international (P-3) and two national General Service positions. The P-3 and one national General Service position are proposed for the Personnel Section of the Logistics Base Support Services, with another national General Service position in the Transport Section of the Logistics Support Services. The provisions reflect the application of a 15 per cent and 5 per cent vacancy rate to the estimates for international and national staff positions, respectively.

	Variance	
Consultants	($71.6)	(13.4%)

- **Management: reduced inputs and outputs**

70. The decreased requirement of $71,600 under this heading reflects an overall reduced requirement for consultants (non-training) during the period, offset in part by increased requirements for training consultants.

71. The proposed provisions in respect of consultants (non-training) reflect the requirements for a feasibility study on the use of bar-coding technology in the accounting and management of consumables; an assessment of the water supply system at the Base; an environmental assessment of conditions in facilities including usage, operations, and management to produce a phased intervention and implementation plan; an assessment study of buildings and grounds in respect of accessibility for handicapped people; structural design, safety and construction plans; and supervision of works related to the replacement of a bearing wall with a steel frame.

72. The increased requirement is attributed to in-house courses for staff and other participants from missions. The in-house courses relate to the upgrading of technical skills and cover the areas of airport operations, staff development, people management, leadership and management, human resources management, procurement, communications and information technology, warehouse management and stock control and geographic information systems, conflict mediation and negotiation, first-aid and fire-prevention training, facilities design and construction and cost estimation.

	Variance	
Official travel	$295.8	47.1%

• Management: additional inputs and same output

73. The additional requirement of $295,800 reflects overall increased requirements for official travel, both non-training- and training-related.

74. The increase in requirements for official travel (non-training) is attributed to the trips planned by the Geographic Information System Centre personnel for coordination meetings with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in Brussels, the European Union Satellite Centre in Madrid and the Joint Research Centre in Milan, Italy; the Regional Aviation Safety Office visits to UNMIK, UNFICYP and UNIFIL and to Moldova and Ukraine; trips to missions in liquidation phase by personnel from the Transport Section for equipment inspections, evaluation of vehicular assets and consumables for inclusion in the United Nations reserve stock; and trips by the Engineering Section to missions for assessment and familiarization.

75. In the area of training-related travel, the increased provision is attributed to the travel, in connection with training requirements, of some 303 participants. The external travel-related training programmes are mostly technical and related to aviation and aviation safety, certification and recertification in the transportation of dangerous goods, communications and information technology, predeployment training and training recognition programmes for Member States, ground transportation, facilities management, travel and tropical medicines, leadership and management and supply chain management.

	Variance	
Facilities and infrastructure	$602.1	10.6%

• Management: additional inputs and same output

76. The additional requirement of $602,100 is attributable primarily to the increased requirement for alteration and renovation services. The overall increase is offset in part by decreased requirements in respect of construction services and the non-requirement for the acquisition of generators.

77. The increased provision for alteration and construction services stem from the requirement for the electrical network upgrade needed to sustain the Base's current and future electrical-power demands. Currently the power supply to 22 warehouses, 12 workshops and technical buildings and 18 office buildings is provided from five different locations in the exclusive use area. Given the change in the utilization and scope of facilities, renovation is required under local and national laws. Accordingly, provisions are inclusive of the renovation of three new buildings, in keeping with addendum II to the memorandum of understanding with the Government of Italy on the exclusive use areas.

78. The decreased provisions in respect of construction services reflects the non-requirement for the construction of premises in the exclusive use area at this time, given that long-term perspectives for the Base will be addressed in the context of the 2009/10 budget period.

	Variance	
Ground transportation	**($193.5)**	**(20.5%)**

• Management: reduced inputs and outputs

79. The decreased provision of $193,500 under this heading is attributable mainly to the non-acquisition of replacement vehicles. The overall lower requirements are offset partly by increased requirements for spare parts, given the increased inventory of assets, the need for the rental of vehicles to provide transportation services for the training centre and its activities, and the need for engineering and materials handling equipment for short periods for various engineering and facilities management projects.

	Variance	
Communications	**$218.1**	**4.5%**

• Management: additional inputs and outputs

80. The additional provision of $218,100 relates mainly to the requirements for communication support services and spare parts. The overall increased requirement under this heading is offset in part by decreased requirements for the acquisition of communications equipment.

81. The increased requirement in respect of communications support services derives from the need for the establishment of a specialized contractual service agreement for the support of the Data Centre physical infrastructure and from the number of communications systems to be supported by manufacturers including outsourced expertise services in support of the Logistics Base, strategic deployment stocks, United Nations Reserves and the wide-area network of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations in accordance with Headquarters policies. The higher requirement in respect of spare parts is a result of the increase in assets pertaining to the Base and strategic deployment stocks as at 30 June 2009. The Logistics Base requirement is calculated on a 5.5 per cent basis and the strategic deployment stocks requirement is based on a 1 per cent of the 70 per cent of the inventory value of assets.

82. The decreased requirements in respect of the acquisition of communications equipment is attributable to the need to acquire only 140 items of communications equipment to replace those that have exceeded their life expectancy and are due to be written off along with other similar equipment.

	Variance	
Information technology	**$347.9**	**6.6%**

• Management: additional inputs and outputs

83. The increase by $347,900 in requirements under this heading is due to additional requirements for the maintenance and repair of information technology equipment and spare parts and supplies, respectively. The overall increase is offset in part by reduced requirements for the acquisition of software packages.

84. The additional requirements for the maintenance and repair of information technology equipment are the result of two factors. The first relates to information technology equipment that is inoperative but can be economically repaired and calibrated by the manufacturers or vendors. This includes Logistics Base and United Nations reserve equipment. The second relates to the need to maintain the high-level support and maintenance agreement (replacement, upgrade and support) for the Cisco high-end data-switching equipment operated at the Base's data centre.

85. The higher requirement for spare parts is based on the application of a standard 5.5 per cent to the inventory asset value of information technology equipment at the Logistics Base. In addition the requirement includes provisions for a stock holding of spare parts and supplies for the strategic deployment stocks. The overall requirement for spare parts allows for the upgrading, preparation and/or modification of equipments and systems to allow for the efficient and effective deployment to field missions.

86. Reduced requirements for the acquisition of software packages are attributable to the re-prioritization and phased upgrade of the centralized network management software.

	Variance	
Medical	($125.9)	(33.4%)

- **Management: reduced inputs and same output**

87. The decrease by $125,900 in proposed provisions under this heading is attributable primarily to lower requirements for medical services as a result of the discontinuation of the contractual services of three part-time medical doctors due to the proposed establishment of a full-time medical officer (P-4). The overall lower requirements are offset by increased requirements for the acquisition of medical supplies. Such medical supplies include medicines such as antibiotics, anti-inflammatory drugs, ointments, painkillers and fusion liquids and consumables (dressings, injections, bandages, antimicrobial cleaners, disinfectors and sutures) to provide medical support to Logistics Base staff, as well as medical test kits.

	Variance	
Other supplies, services and equipment	($148.6)	(4.0%)

- **Management: lower inputs and same output**

88. The decrease by $148,600 in requirements under this heading is attributable primarily to the lower requirements for other services and general insurance. The overall reduced requirement is offset in part by the increased requirement for training fees, supplies and services and other freight and related costs.

89. The reduced requirements for other services stems from the conversion of nine contractor positions to national General Service staff posts, with a consequential reduction in the Logistics Support Services contract annual yearly increment mandated by Italian law. The provision takes into account provisions for 41 contractors. The lower requirements for general insurance are based on the pattern of past expenditures.

90. The increased requirements for training fees, supplies and services are the result of the provision for fees and honorariums for facilitators (experienced former Force Commanders, Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General and police commissioners) for the Senior Mission Leadership courses as well as fees for the NATO Geospatial Officer course.

91. Higher requirements for other freight and related costs are in respect of freight services, customs clearance and express courier services, including charges for shipping United Nations and Department of Peacekeeping Operations training publications to peacekeeping missions, Member State peacekeeping training centres and schools.

IV. Actions to be taken by the General Assembly

92. **The actions to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of the United Nations Logistics Base are:**

(a) **Appropriation of the amount of $45,827,400 for the maintenance of the Logistics Base for the 12-month period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009;**

(b) **Proration of the amount in paragraph (a) among the individual active peacekeeping operation budgets to meet the financing requirements of the Logistics Base for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009.**

V. Summary of follow-up action taken to implement the decisions and requests of the General Assembly in its resolution 61/276 and requests and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions endorsed by the Assembly, and of the United Nations Board of Auditors and the Office of Internal Oversight Services

A. General Assembly

(Resolution 61/276)

Decision/request	*Action taken to implement decision/request*
Section II: budgeting and budget presentation	
When submitting future budget proposals and performance reports, include information on the most significant management decisions relating to the mission's budget and its implementation, including those related to operational costs (para. 2).	The Logistics Base is meeting this requirement. This is reflected in the resource planning assumptions document.
Intensify efforts to improve the quality and timely issuance of peacekeeping documents (para. 3).	The Logistics Base is meeting this requirement.

Decision/request	*Action taken to implement decision/request*
Budget submissions should reflect management improvements and efficiency gains to be achieved and present future strategies in that regard (para. 4).	The Logistics Base is meeting this requirement by completing and including service improvements and efficiency gains.
Take further steps towards improving budget assumptions and forecasts and report thereon to the General Assembly at the second part of its resumed sixty-second session (para. 5).	The Logistics Base is meeting this requirement in its formulation of budget cost estimates.
Improve control over obligations due to the significant increase in the cancellation of prior-period obligations (para. 6).	The Logistics Base is reviewing on a monthly basis current- and prior-year outstanding obligations and has greatly reduced the savings surrendered in the second year of an obligation.
Section III: results-based budgeting	
Integrate operational, logistical and financial aspects fully in the planning phase of peacekeeping operations by linking results-based budgeting to the mandate implementation plans of peacekeeping operations (para. 2).	The Logistics Base is meeting this requirement.
Section VII: staffing, recruitment and vacancy rates	
Make greater use of national staff, as appropriate, commensurate with the requirements of the mission and its mandate (para. 3).	The Logistics Base is moving in this direction in both its recruitment and its placement policy. National staff are increasingly assuming leadership and training roles, in line with the mandate of the Logistics Base.
Ensure that vacant posts are filled expeditiously (para. 4).	The Base is doing all it can to meet this recommendation, as international staff vacancies have been reduced from 27.7 per cent at the end of the 2006/07 period to 12 per cent as at 29 February 2008.
Review the staffing structure of missions on an ongoing basis, bearing in mind, in particular, the mission's mandate and concept of operations, and reflect this in budget proposals, including full justification of any additional posts proposed (para. 5).	The Logistics Base is adhering to this recommendation, as reflected in the 2008/09 budget.
Section IX: training	
Provide professional development opportunities for national staff and fully include national staff in all relevant training programmes (para. 2).	The Logistics Base is moving in this direction in both its recruitment and its placement policy. Provision is requested for the training and development of national staff in the 2008/09 budget.

Decision/request	*Action taken to implement decision/request*
Section XX: regional coordination	
Develop and implement regional coordination plans aligned to the objectives of missions, keeping in mind the specific mandate of each mission (para. 2).	Advice to missions (UNMIK, UNIFIL, UNFICYP and UNOMIG) on the implementation of aviation safety policies, procedures and guidelines provided by United Nations Headquarters will continue to be given during periodic visits. The organization of emergency response plan exercises for aircraft accidents in the three missions will be included in this period. The aviation safety oversight programme will be expanded to include UNIFIL and UNFICYP.

B. Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

(A/61/852)

Request/recommendation	*Action taken to implement request/recommendation*
Section III: results-based budgeting	
The results-based framework should be clearly linked to the mandate of the mission established by the Security Council and the resources requested. Indicators of achievement should permit measurement of the results achieved. As requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 59/296, they should also reflect, where possible, the mission's contribution to the expected accomplishments and objectives, and not those of Member States (para. 14).	The United Nations Logistics Base results-based framework meets this requirement.
Section V: financial management	
The Committee renews its call for more accurate forecasting of requirements and for stricter control over obligations (para. 27).	The Logistics Base is reviewing all outstanding obligations on a monthly basis, chaired by the Chief Administrative Officer. Unneeded obligations are liquidated.
Section VIII: civilian personnel	
The Committee recommends that missions focus on reducing vacancies before requesting increases in their staffing tables (para. 36).	The Logistics Base has taken the necessary steps in this direction and has reduced the International staff vacancy rate from 27.7 per cent at the end of 2006/07 to an overall percentage of 12 per cent as at 29 February 2008.

Request/recommendation	*Action taken to implement request/recommendation*
Language skills	
The Committee recommends that the Secretariat enhance the recruitment at all levels of candidates with the appropriate language skills. In this regard, it stresses the need to improve the situation in peacekeeping operations deployed in French-speaking countries (para. 41).	The Logistics Base has commissioned several language courses, including English, French, Italian and Spanish, at the beginner, intermediate and advanced levels.
Gender balance	
The Committee expects that due attention will be given to maintaining an appropriate gender balance in selections at the senior management level, and to improving the gender balance at all levels (para. 42).	The Logistics Base is making this possible through attrition and ensuring that efforts towards gender balance are made in the years to come.
Greater use of national staff	
When making proposals for an increase in national staff, it is imperative that all missions identify functions that are being taken over by such staff from international staff. This exercise is particularly important in the post-conflict peacebuilding stage (para. 46).	The Logistics Base is moving in this direction in both its recruitment and its placement policy. National staff are increasingly assuming leadership roles.
Section IX: operational costs	
Training	
While it recognizes the importance of training to enhance the effectiveness of missions, the Committee considers that further steps should be taken to make training programmes more cost-effective and relevant to the needs of each mission. Travel for training should be reduced by emphasizing training of trainers and fully exploring the possibilities for videoconferencing and e-learning (para. 48).	The majority of the Logistics Base's training is done internally.
In view of the increasing role of national staff and the need to build national capacities and provide professional development opportunities for national staff, the Committee considers that national staff should be fully included in relevant training programmes (para. 49).	The Logistics Base has taken steps to increase the number of national staff who are trained, and this is reflected to an even greater degree in the 2008/09 budget.

Request/recommendation	*Action taken to implement request/recommendation*
Travel	
The Advisory Committee notes with concern that expenditure on travel greatly exceeded budgetary provisions in a number of missions. The Committee recommends that travel requirements be properly budgeted and that travel expenditures be kept within approved provisions (para. 55).	The Logistics Base is complying with this requirement.
Regional cooperation	
The Advisory Committee welcomes initiatives in regional and inter-mission cooperation, which include activities relating to aviation safety, medical services, air operations, a strategic air operations centre, air medical evacuations and a coastal freighter, and intends to monitor their effectiveness in the context of the budget proposals for the period 2008/09 (para. 62).	The Regional Aviation Safety Office will continue to make periodic visits to UNMIK and UNOMIG to carry out aircraft-accident prevention activities. This will also be done at the Logistics Base. Assistance visits to other missions in the area (UNFICYP and UNIFIL) will be performed by this Office instead of by Headquarters in New York. Aviation safety awareness material will continue to be distributed to the region and also to other missions as part of an inter-mission cooperation effort. An induction course for newly recruited Aviation Safety Officers will be conducted by this Office instead of by Headquarters in New York.

(A/61/852/Add.14)

Request/recommendation	*Action taken to implement request/recommendation*
The Advisory Committee notes that the new concept of operations proposes a separation of the activities related to the support of the Logistics Base and those in support of field missions. The presentation of the new concept of operations lacks clarity and should be simplified. The creation of new offices, renaming and changing names of offices and sections, the movement of posts from one office/section to another, the changing grade levels while suggesting redeployment/creation and abolishment of posts have been set out in a way that does not facilitate the understanding of the real budgetary implications and cost-effectiveness of the proposals being put forward (para. 16).	The Logistics Base has taken the necessary steps to address these concerns in the 2008/09 budget.

Request/recommendation	*Action taken to implement request/recommendation*
The Advisory Committee considers that there is a need for a longer-term perspective on the role and future development of the Logistics Base that would address, inter alia, the basis for placing certain functions at the Base. In a previous report (A/60/715), the Secretary-General identified a number of stand-alone activities. The support provided by host authorities should also be factored in. The Committee recommends that such a longer-term perspective should be presented to the General Assembly in the context of the 2009/10 budget proposals. The Committee is of the view that decisions on the establishment of logistics functions should be based on an analysis that takes into account the projected associated costs and overheads, weighed against potential benefits, including savings and productivity and other qualitative gains (para. 17).	The Logistics Base is complying with this recommendation. This is evidenced in the results-based budgeting framework for 2008/09, the resource planning assumptions and the budget cost estimates.
As at 31 March 2007 12 international and seven national posts were vacant, with a vacancy rate of 26 per cent for international staff. In the light of this vacancy situation, the Advisory Committee requests the Logistics Base to re-justify the continued requirement for posts that are vacant for over a year in the context of the 2008/09 budget (para. 20).	The Base has taken steps to reduce its overall vacancy rates. The vacancy rate for international staff was 12 per cent as at 29 February 2008.

Request/recommendation	*Action taken to implement request/recommendation*
The Advisory Committee recognizes the critical importance of providing precise maps and other cartographic products to support decision-making and the work of the United Nations. From the additional information provided to it, the Committee also notes that the production of customized maps is a complex process involving many actors and is based on rapidly evolving GIS technology and standards. The Committee is of the view that a successful implementation of the proposals put forward will require a clear statement on the goals of the Centre, its resources, methods of work and the roles and responsibilities of the different actors involved. It therefore requests that a plan be prepared ensuring the efficient implementation and coordination of Geographical Information System-related activities and resources at Headquarters, the Logistics Base and the missions. It should include specific measures for avoiding duplication as well as targets for the efficiency and productivity gains expected as a result of the establishment of the GIS Centre. Pending the submission of such a plan and a definitive proposal for the establishment of the Centre, the Committee recommends that the following posts requested be established as temporary positions to be funded from general temporary assistance: (a) Creation of a position of Chief, GIS Centre (P-4); (b) Creation of a position of GIS Officer (P-3); (c) Creation of a position of GIS System Officer (Field Service); (d) Creation of five National General Service positions (para. 31).	GIS is in the process of being established at the Logistics Base, with recruitment actively under way. The P-4, P-3, Field Service and 3 General Service staff were already on board as at October 2007. The GIS Centre has achieved operational status, with an important delivery of GIS products (Darfur and UNIFIL mapping) and support services to UNAMID and UNIFIL as at 31 December 2007.

Request/recommendation	*Action taken to implement request/recommendation*
The Engineering Design Unit would provide engineering planning and design services for all peacekeeping missions and Headquarters clients. It would also carry out liaison with and visit field missions to support the design of major engineering projects. The Advisory Committee recalls that, in reporting on the functional areas that could be situated at the Logistics Base (A/60/715, paras. 7 and 8), the Secretary-General had indicated that the establishment of a Central Design Unit would reduce or eliminate the requirement for such skills in many missions and would standardize the design and drafting of accommodation and other engineering work. At that time, the Secretary-General envisaged that the Unit would be staffed by four personnel (1 P-4 (Chief), 1 P-3 and 2 local staff) and that Professional post requirements would be met through the proposed redeployment of posts from existing missions (the United Nations Mission in the Sudan (UNMIS) and the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL)). The Advisory Committee was informed, however, that it was not possible to redeploy personnel from UNMIL or UNMIS at the present time. The Committee notes that this is yet another instance where the proposed redeployment did not materialize (para. 32).	The Engineering Design Unit is in the process of being established at the Base, with recruitment actively under way. The P-4 recruit is expected to arrive on 1 April 2008. The P-3 and 2 General Service staff members came on board in February 2008 and October 2007, respectively.
It is important to determine efficiency and productivity gains that may be achieved as a consequence of the establishment of the Engineering Design Unit. Details on the gains realized as well as further potential savings should be provided in the context of the budget proposal for 2008/09. Pending the availability of such an analysis, the Advisory Committee recommends approval of the following temporary positions to be funded through general temporary assistance: (a) Creation of a position of Chief, Engineering Design Unit (P-4); (b) Creation of a position of Design Engineer (P-3); (c) Creation of 2 national General Service positions (para. 33).	The Engineering Design Unit is in the process of being established at the Base, with recruitment actively under way. The P-4 recruit is expected to arrive on 1 April 2008. The P-3 and 2 General Service staff members came on board in February 2008 and October 2007, respectively.

C. Board of Auditors

(A/61/5 (Vol. II), chap. II)

Request/recommendation	*Action taken to implement request/recommendation*
Speeding violations At the Logistics Base, there were a total of 119 speeding violations involving 22 drivers of 17 vehicles, ranging from 132 to 172 kilometres per hour. The Base indicated that it had issued letters of caution, reminders and advisories on safety and traffic rules and regulations to each violating staff member. **The Department agreed with the Board's recommendation that it impose the appropriate disciplinary measures and consider the scale and effectiveness of the sanctions.**	An Administrative Instruction has been issued (No. 06/10, dated November 2006) outlining additional traffic violation penalties, in line with Headquarters Surface Transport Section procedures. Monthly CarLog speeding reports are forwarded to the Security Office for perusal. Italian air force Security also cooperates in identifying staff members breaching those instructions. Eleven violation tickets and three Italian air force warning letters were issued to staff members during the period from June 2006 to July 2007. In 2008/09, the Logistics Base will conduct road safety and advanced driver training.
The Logistics Base Training Centre conducted 158 training exercises during the year ended 30 June 2006 in support to peacekeeping operations. The Board, however, noted that a course on off-road driving, which could have addressed matters involving road accidents, had not been offered. The Department informed the Board that the Integrated Training Service was in the process of developing a module on safe driving that would be part of the generic training module library. The module, which was scheduled to be completed during the second quarter of 2007, would be shared with the Base and the missions for inclusion in their training programmes (paras. 195, 197 and 199-200).	

Request/recommendation	*Action taken to implement request/recommendation*
Asset Management	
Inventory items having a dollar value of less than $500 per item aggregating $2.22 million were included in the report, thereby overstating the inventory balance by the same amount at the Logistics Base. Also, the inventory report included items with an individual dollar value of more than $1,500, but the propriety of classifying them as non-expendable property could not be readily confirmed in the absence of information on the serviceable lives of the items either in the report or in Galileo.	Year-end inventory reports on non-expendable property for the 2005/06 financial period were compiled in compliance with issued guidelines and instructions. Furthermore, the Logistics Base is in compliance with paragraph 25 of the closing instructions dated 19 May 2006. The value of non-expendable property in the year-end report was not overstated.
The Department agreed with the Board's reiterated recommendation that it ensure the proper custody, control, recording and disposal of non-expendable property (paras. 204 (f) and 206).	Additional measures have been implemented to ensure that life-expectancy data for all assets is recorded in the inventory management system. Financial reports will be produced in line with United Nations Headquarters guidelines.
Property written off or pending write-off	
The Board's further analysis disclosed that inventories pending write-off and disposal per active mission accounted for from 0.13 per cent (United Nations Mission in the Sudan) to 9.30 per cent (Logistics Base) of their inventories. **The Board recommends that the Administration expedite the approval of write-off and disposals of non-expendable property that meet the criteria for such action** (paras. 210 and 212).	Logistics Base disposal action, except for the property with the disposal method "sale", is done on a timely basis. As at 2 October 2007, the Base had disposed by sale of United Nations-owned property valued at $4,704,402. Although the organization of a commercial sale for small amounts of property may not be practical, the Base will further reduce the sale trigger figure in order to dispose of United Nations property when deemed necessary.

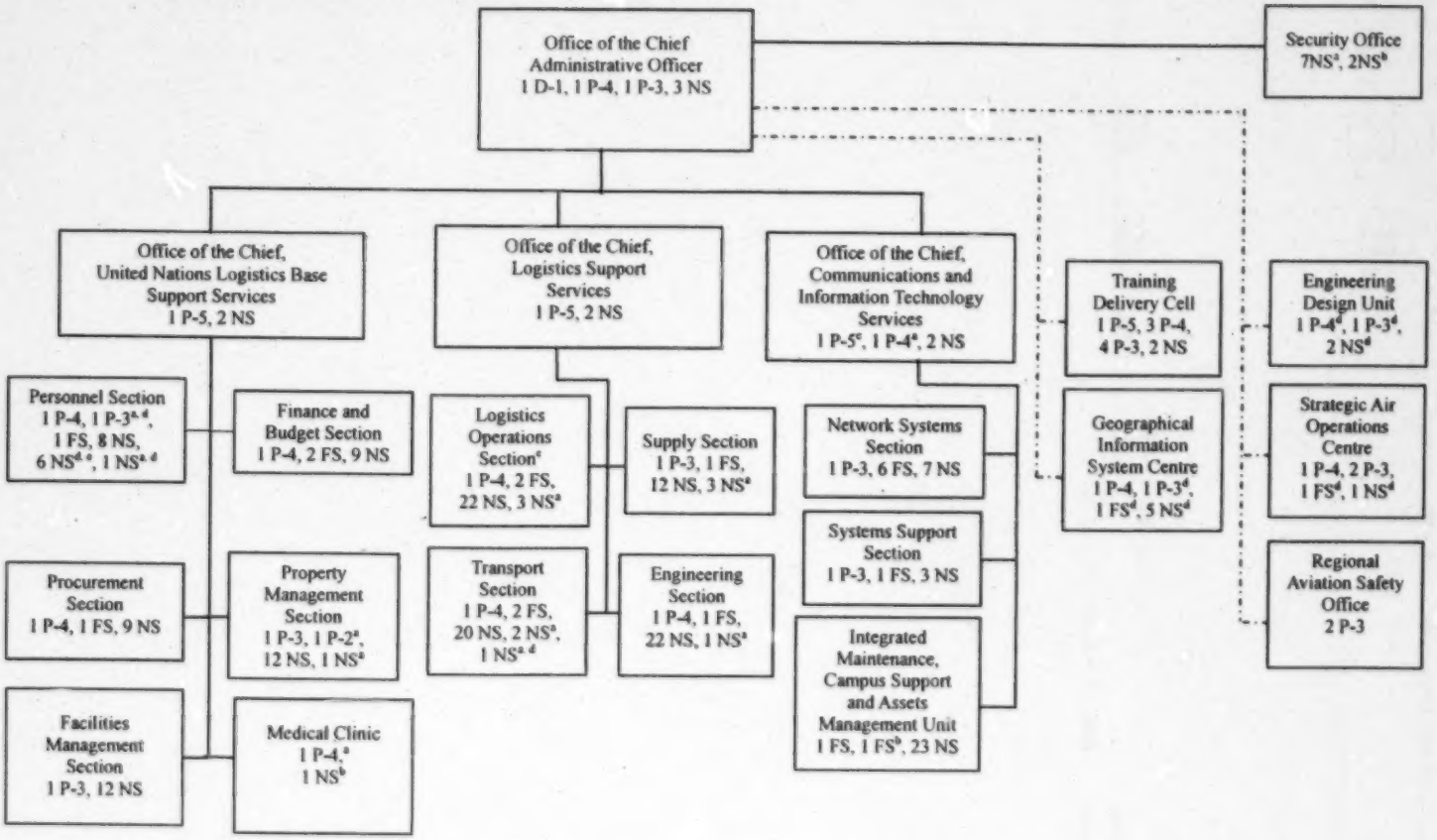
Request/recommendation	*Action taken to implement request/recommendation*
Shipments of Strategic Deployment Stocks	
At the Logistics Base, the Board noted that 69 shipments extracted on a sample basis from the Galileo system covering the financial year 2005/06 incurred an average delay of 55.4 days between the material release order dates and the actual dates of shipment. The Galileo system also showed that delays covering 17 shipments or 24.6 per cent of the total shipments exceeded 90 days. The Base commented that the delays indicated above pertained mostly to cargo consolidation shipments, which had an extended shipping lead time but were the most cost-effective for the Organization. The Base further commented that current analysis of lead times starting with the material release order approval date should not be considered for cases of large shipments, as consolidation time for such shipments might span over 30 days. Only upon processing of the approved material release orders did UNLB request Headquarters to proceed with the procurement process for sea-air freight contract. That process entailed additional weeks to the individual and multiple material release order of particular consolidated cargo. **The Board recognizes that cargo consolidation could be cost-effective** (paras. 221-223).	The Logistics Base endeavours to maintain and improve current standards of achievement, provided that future analyses are based on adherence to the results-based budgeting indicators intended as an overall yearly average and not on the shipping time calculated for a single material release order/shipment. A different approach would invalidate the very concept of the consolidation of multiple material release orders issued on different dates but combined into one consignment.

Request/recommendation	*Action taken to implement request/recommendation*
Replenishment of Strategic Deployment Stocks	
The Board noted that a tracking system (Galileo) to match replenishments received with the material release orders issued was not in place. This was not in line with the provision under paragraph D.4 of a policy directive dated 30 January 2006 which was intended to achieve a rapid replenishment action for every release of strategic deployment stocks. The practice of the Administration requiring that shipments should be duly recognized by recipients as a precondition to processing replenishment orders placed the stocks at risk of being critically low, to the point where the Logistics Base would be unable to respond fully to urgent needs. **The Board recommends that the Department comply with the policy directive, which stipulates that replenishment action should commence at the time of the release of stocks** (paras. 226-227).	The strategic deployment stocks policy directive dated 30 January 2006 stipulating that replenishment action should commence at the time of the release of stocks is fully complied with. This replenishment process is described in the strategic deployment stocks accounting guidelines dated 3 August 2006. The strategic deployment stocks accounting guidelines establish that the replenishment process is triggered by shipment documents rather than material release orders. Such orders are official electronic documents that authorize the Logistics Base to prepare and process equipment for shipment in the system but do not modify the status of the assets. When the equipment is shipped and electronically recognized by recipients, the Strategic Deployment Stocks Unit at Headquarters initiates the replenishment process through the reporting tool (business object). Accordingly, the relevant self-accounting units analyse the list of equipment shipped and decide whether the same equipment is to be replenished. Considerations such as changes in strategic deployment stocks composition, equipment no longer required, operational requirements and contract constraints are taken into account at the time of deciding on the equipment to be purchased as a replacement. Furthermore, the Galileo Inventory Management System was developed and implemented to track the equipment life cycle from the day that it is received, inspected and recorded in the system as United Nations-owned equipment until it is written off and removed from the books. This system was not meant to track replenishment through material release orders.

Request/recommendation	*Action taken to implement request/recommendation*
Receipt and inspection of shipments at the United Nations Logistics Base	
The Board noted that inspections for 24 out of 141 shipments, or approximately 17 per cent, had exceeded the 26 days lead time for inspection adopted by the Logistics Base for the financial period 2005/06, ranging from one day to one month after the deadline. The Logistics Base explained that the delayed completion of receipt and inspection reports was caused by several factors, inter alia: (a) incomplete documentation required for technical acceptance in terms of the internal procedures established by the self-accounting units prior to acceptance; (b) partial deliveries for complex systems for which inspection can be finalized only upon receipt of all parts; and (c) receipt of assets for which new codification is required (paras. 228-230).	Receipt and inspection time has dropped substantially in 2006/07 from 2005/06. 2006/07 All inventories 7.90 Strategic deployment stocks 6.56 Logistics Base 5.23 Department of Peacekeeping Operations trans-shipment 8.25 United Nations reserve 7.38 2005/06 All inventories 18.25 Strategic deployment stocks 18.17 Logistics Base 14.76 Department of Peacekeeping Operations trans-shipment 7.74 United Nations reserve 10.67

Annex

Organization chart, 2008/09


Office of the Chief Administrative Officer
1 D-1, 1 P-4, 1 P-3, 3 NS
Security Office
7NS[a], 2NS[b]
Office of the Chief, United Nations Logistics Base Support Services
1 P-5, 2 NS
Office of the Chief, Logistics Support Services
1 P-5, 2 NS
Office of the Chief, Communications and Information Technology Services
1 P-5[c], 1 P-4[a], 2 NS
Training Delivery Cell
1 P-5, 3 P-4, 4 P-3, 2 NS
Engineering Design Unit
1 P-4[d], 1 P-3[d], 2 NS[d]
Personnel Section
1 P-4, 1 P-3[a, d], 1 FS, 8 NS, 6 NS[d, e], 1 NS[a, d]
Finance and Budget Section
1 P-4, 2 FS, 9 NS
Logistics Operations Section[c]
1 P-4, 2 FS, 22 NS, 3 NS[a]
Supply Section
1 P-3, 1 FS, 12 NS, 3 NS[a]
Network Systems Section
1 P-3, 6 FS, 7 NS
Geographical Information System Centre
1 P-4, 1 P-3[d], 1 FS[d], 5 NS[d]
Strategic Air Operations Centre
1 P-4, 2 P-3, 1 FS[d], 1 NS[d]
Procurement Section
1 P-4, 1 FS, 9 NS
Property Management Section
1 P-3, 1 P-2[a], 12 NS, 1 NS[a]
Transport Section
1 P-4, 2 FS, 20 NS, 2 NS[a], 1 NS[a, d]
Engineering Section
1 P-4, 1 FS, 22 NS, 1 NS[a]
Systems Support Section
1 P-3, 1 FS, 3 NS
Regional Aviation Safety Office
2 P-3
Facilities Management Section
1 P-3, 12 NS
Medical Clinic
1 P-4,[a] 1 NS[b]
Integrated Maintenance, Campus Support and Assets Management Unit
1 FS, 1 FS[b], 23 NS

Note: Dotted lines are for units reporting operationally to United Nations Headquarters and administratively to the United Nations Logistics Base.

Abbreviations: FS, Field Service; NS, national General Service staff.

[a] New posts.

[b] Redeployment.

[c] Reclassified.

[d] General temporary assistance positions.

[e] Recruitment and Outreach Unit of the Personnel Section.